

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS

Standing Committee on Planning Subcommittee on Asset Management

President

JACK LETTIERE, President Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Transportation

Committee Chairman
DEBORAH MILLER
Secretary, Kansas
Department of Transportation

Address reply to:

Kirk T. Steudle, Chairman AASHTO Subcommittee on Asset Management P.O. Box 30050 Lansing, Michigan 48909

February 7, 2005

Mr. Joe McInnes Transportation Director Alabama Department of Transportation 1409 Coliseum Boulevard Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2060

Dear Director McInnes:

Agency Contact for Asset Management

State transportation officials face the challenging task of managing a broad array of assets to meet public, agency, and legislative expectations, all while resources are limited and often uncertain. In a modern transportation department, "assets" broadly include physical transportation infrastructure (e.g., highways, bridges, culverts, guard rail, rest areas, etc.) as well as vehicle fleets, real estate, human resources, and agency intellectual property. Successful management of these varied assets requires excellent data, effective communication, and an understanding of how to link resource decisions to policy goals. Gathered together, the various tools and philosophies of "asset management" are becoming the globally accepted set of business principles that support fact-based decisionmaking, accountability, and performance-based management in state transportation agencies.

In recognition of the growing importance of asset management for state transportation officials, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has formed an Asset Management Subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Planning (Subcommittee) with the goal of advancing the state of the practice. This Subcommittee is designed to reflect the many facets of asset management in our departments and includes representation from every AASHTO region and the multiple disciplines of planning, engineering and finance. The structure of the Subcommittee reflects the reality that asset management has become a crosscutting philosophy and a way to do business within the entirety of a modern transportation department.

The reason for my letter is to ask that you identify an asset management point of contact who will serve as the Subcommittee's point person in your agency for the distribution of information on asset management and upcoming events of interest. The complete contact list of all AASHTO member states will be posted on the AASHTO web site and may be distributed further. For example, the contacts will be shared with the TRB Subcommittee on Asset Management. The following excellent web site is available to support the community of Asset Management practitioners: http://assetmanagement.transportation.org/. This site provides a sample of the type of information and support available for asset management that the Subcommittee will keep your staff apprised of.

Please submit the name, title and contact information, including email address, of an asset management point of contact for your department to the following email address: pohlj@michigan.gov. The contact list will be shared with the representatives to facilitate the exchange of information. As Chair of the Asset Management Subcommittee, let me say that I am looking forward to working with you and your staff on this important and practical business philosophy for managing the public's assets.

Sincerely,

Kirk T. Steudle, Chairman Asset Management Subcommittee